How to write a comment

In a comment (Stellungnahme, Kommentar), we state (nennen, vortragen) our opinions and personal views on something.

In a personal comment, we usually state first whether we are for or against something. Then we give reasons, or arguments, for our view. We usually finish with a conclusion (Schlussfolgerung) based on the evidence (Beweisführung) that we have given.

Example: Do teenagers need a mobile phone? (topic)

STEP 1 **INTRODUCTION**
• The question … is a contentious[1] issue[2] in modern society. Many people regard … as absolutely necessary. Others think that … • Nowadays it is often discussed … Some people are convinced[3] that… But others… • In our world of modern communication one often disputed[4] point is the role of mobile phones in our everyday lives. Many people believe that… But others…

STEP 2 **BEGINNING (GIVING YOUR OPINION)**	
For	**Against**
In my opinion young people need mobile phones *because* it is part of modern life.	*In my opinion* teenagers should not have mobile phones *because* they do not need them.

STEP 3 **ARGUMENTS (KEYWORDS)**	
For	**Against**
• You can talk to your friends at anytime and from anywhere • You always know what's going on • You can call for help in dangerous situations • …	• The use of mobile phones costs a lot of money • Excessive use can damage your health • People call you when you do not want to talk to them • …

Firstly… Secondly… Moreover… Furthermore… In addition…

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[1] contentious: umstritten

[2] issue: Thema, (Streit-)Frage

[3] (to) be convinced of: überzeugt sein von

[4] (to) be disputed: umstritten

Step 4 Conclusion (End)	
For	**Against**
All in all you must say that it is absolutely impossible to live without mobile phones in a modern world.	*Considering all the arguments you must come to the conclusion that* mobile phones are not only unnecessary *but also* dangerous for mankind.